

specification. (See Office Action dated January 18, 2002; at paragraphs 2 and 5.) It is respectfully submitted that the amendments to the title and abstract are sufficient to overcome the Examiner's objections thereto. (See Office Action dated January 18, 2002; at paragraphs 3 and 4.)

Double Patenting Rejection

It is respectfully submitted that the terminal disclaimer filed herewith is sufficient to overcome the double patenting rejection.

Claim Rejections under 35 U.S.C. § 112

It is respectfully submitted that the amendments to Claims 1, 9-12 and 25 are sufficient to overcome the claim rejections under 35 U.S.C. § 112.

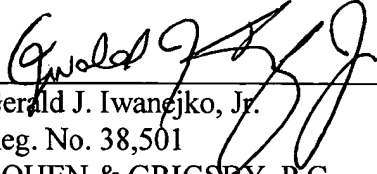
Claim Rejections under 35 U.S.C. §§ 102 and 103:

Claims 1 and 25 have been amended herein to incorporate the subject matter of cancelled Claim 2. The Examiner's rejection of Claim 2 under both 35 U.S.C. §§ 102 and 103 is based upon Perchepied, U.S. Patent No. 5,609,263. However, Perchepied does not show the limitation requiring "*an elevated area extending axially towards said depending skirt, wherein said elevated area defines a region of decreased ring spacing from said depending skirt*". For this reason, Claims 1 and 25 (and thus the remainder of the pending claims as dependent therefrom) are allowable over the prior art of record.

For the foregoing reasons, reconsideration and allowance of Claims 1, 3-12, 14, 16-20, 22 and 25 as amended herein is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,
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APPENDIX

Sub 17
C1
1. A tamper indicating closure configured for snap-on or screw-on application to a container, said closure comprising:

- a. a closure top portion;
- b. an annular depending skirt extending from said top portion, said depending skirt having an internal thread configuration adapted for engaging an external thread configuration on the neck portion of said container by snap-on application during initial installation of said closure to the container neck;
- c. an inner annular sealing flange depending from said closure top portion in spaced relation to said depending skirt; and
- d. a tamper indicating ring connected to said depending skirt by a plurality of frangible elements;

wherein said tamper indicating ring includes at least one arcuate projection extending around at least a portion of said tamper indicating ring arranged for registration with a container neck portion on which said closure is positioned and said closure includes at least one nonremovable member breakably attached to said tamper-indicating ring which cooperates with at least one said arcuate projection to assist in breaking said tamper indicating ring during removal of said closure from said container neck.; and

wherein at least one said arcuate projection is held in place by an annular locking flange on the container neck as said member is pulled away from said arcuate projection by twist-off removal of said annular depending skirt to cause said tamper indicating ring to break at a

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weakened area as said member pulls said tamper indicating ring upward to cause breakage of frangible elements connecting said skirt to said tamper indicating ring and fracture of said weakened area by separation of said portion of said tamper indicating ring attached to said member from said portion of said tamper indicating ring attached to said arcuate projection;

wherein said tamper indicating ring includes an elevated area extending axially towards said depending skirt, wherein said elevated area defines a region of decreased ring spacing from said depending skirt.

C2
3. The tamper indicating closure of Claim 1 or 25, further comprising a plurality of said frangible elements and said elevated areas, wherein at least one of said frangible elements is connected to said depending skirt between two said elevated areas.

9 The tamper indicating closure of Claim 1 or 25, wherein said inner annular sealing flange includes at least one annular sealing bead extending around said inner annular sealing flange and being configured for engagement with the interior surface of said container neck finish.

C3
10. The tamper indicating closure of Claim 8, wherein said inner annular sealing flange includes at least one annular sealing bead extending around said inner annular sealing flange and being configured for engagement with the interior surface of said container neck finish.

11 The tamper indicating closure of Claim 1 or 25, wherein said annular depending skirt includes at least one annular sealing bead extending around said skirt and being configured for engagement with the exterior surface of said container neck finish.

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C3
12 The tamper indicating closure of Claim 10, wherein said annular depending skirt includes at least one annular sealing bead extending around said skirt and being configured for engagement with the exterior surface of said container-neck finish.

CH Subd
25. A tamper indicating closure configured for snap-on or screw-on application to a container, said closure and container comprising in combination:

- a. a closure top portion;
- b. an annular depending skirt extending from said top portion, said depending skirt having an internal thread configuration adapted for engaging an external thread configuration on the neck portion of said container by snap-on application during initial installation of said closure to said container neck;
- c. an inner annular sealing flange depending from said closure top portion in spaced relation to said depending skirt; and
- d. a tamper indicating ring connected to said depending skirt by a plurality of frangible elements;

wherein said tamper indicating ring includes at least one arcuate projection extending around at least a portion of said tamper indicating ring arranged for registration with a container neck portion on which said closure is positioned and said closure includes at least one nonremovable member breakably attached to said tamper-indicating ring which cooperates with at least one said arcuate projection to assist in breaking said tamper indicating ring during removal of said closure from said container neck.; and

wherein at least one said arcuate projection is held in place by an annular locking flange

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C4
on said container neck as said member is pulled away from said arcuate projection by twist-off removal of said annular depending skirt to cause said tamper indicating ring to break at a weakened area as said member pulls said tamper indicating ring upward to cause breakage of frangible elements connecting said skirt to said tamper indicating ring and fracture of said weakened area by separation of said portion of said tamper indicating ring attached to said member from said portion of said tamper indicating ring attached to said arcuate projection;

wherein said tamper indicating ring includes an elevated area extending axially towards said depending skirt, wherein said elevated area defines a region of decreased ring spacing from said depending skirt.